

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, CANTERBURY & ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN, KENT

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
59 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ
Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: canterbury@rcaos.org.uk

Web Site: <https://stthomasofcanterbury.com>

ST DUNSTAN'S, HERSDEN
16 East View, Hersden, CT3 4HH
Telephone: **01227 462896**

Email: hersden@rcaos.org.uk



Facebook: **St Thomas of Canterbury**

Parish Priest:

Canon Anthony Charlton

email: anthonycharlton@rcaos.org.uk

Assistant Priests:

Fr Giovanni Prandini

email: giovanniprandini@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Administrator:

Miss Linda Scott (based at St Thomas')

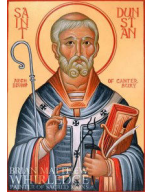
Parish Office open **Mon, Tues & Fri: 10am to 3.00pm** (closed 1pm to 1.30pm), **Thurs 10am - 1pm**

St Thomas' Shop (01227 462896): **Open Sundays from after 9.30 Mass until 12 noon**

University of Kent Chaplaincy: Chaplain: **Fr Mark Wharton** (markwharton@rcaos.org.uk)

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School: Head Teacher: **Miss Lisa D'Agostini** (01227 462539)

St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Executive Principal: **Mr M Walters**; Academy Principal: **Mr J Rowarth** (01227 826200)



ST THOMAS' (All Masses are Livestreamed)

6.00pm (Vigil): People of the Parish

Sunday 27th Oct: 30th Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Mk 10: 46-52

8.00am: Philomena Wickenden - RIP

9.30am: Filipino Community and their families

11.00am: Nicola Batchelor - RIP

12.30pm: *Baptism of Genevieve Bostock*

6.00pm: Wim Van Vuuren - RIP

2nd Col.: **SVP**

Monday 28th Oct: Sts Simon and Jude, Apostles Lk 6: 12-19

12 noon: Jose Luis Vicent Gill - RIP

Tuesday 29th October: Feria

Lk 13: 18-21

12 noon: Larry Woods and Luisa Ward - RIP

7.00pm: *Journey in Faith (RCIA) in the Hall*

7.30pm: *Charismatic Prayer Group in the Upper Room*

Wednesday 30th Oct: Feria

Lk 13: 22-30

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Funeral of Chris Walters

Tea and coffee in the hall after Mass

Thursday 31st Oct: Feria

Lk 13: 31-35

7.30am: Maria Sadler - RIP

12 noon: Intentions of Sean Clancy

Scripture Group after 12 noon Mass in the Upper Room

Friday 1st November : All Saints (HOLY DAY)

Mt 5: 1-12

9.30am: Carmel Fahey - welfare

12 noon: Mary & Brian George - Wedding Anniversary

8.00pm: Nicola Batchelor - RIP

Saturday 2nd Nov: Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls)

Mk 15: 33-39; 16: 1-6

9.00am: *Baptism Preparation Meeting*

10.30 - 11.30: Reconciliation

12 noon: Teresa Kelly - RIP

4.30 - 5.30pm: Reconciliation

4.30pm: *Legion of Mary meeting in the Upper Room*

6.00pm (Vigil): In Thanksgiving

2nd Col.: CAFOD
Middle East Appeal

Sunday 3rd Nov: 31st Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Mk 12: 28-34

8.00am: People of the Parish

9.30am: UCM and Families

11.00am: Deceased members of the Murphy and Dillon Families

12.30pm: *Baptism of Arthur Wheeler*

3.00pm: *Blessing of the Graves at Canterbury Cemetery*

6.00pm: Sheila Elliott & deceased members of the McGilley Family

ST DUNSTAN'S

Sunday Mass at 10am

Sunday 27th Oct: 30th Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Mk 10: 46-52

10.00am: People of the Parish

Parish Meeting after Mass

Thursday, 31st Oct: Vigil of the Feast of All Saints Mt 5: 1-12

4.00pm: Mass for the People of the Parish

Sunday 3rd Nov: 31st Sun in Ordinary Time (B) Mk 12: 28-34

10.00am: People of the Parish

Please remember in your prayers:

Marie Strong, Angeline Frizell, Janette Hughes, Jenni Aldridge, Josie Price, Mary Reynolds, Brian Wicker, Audrey Martin, Heather Dandison, Richard Sexton, Frank Basquil, Judith Parsons, Therese Punnett, Andrew Burton, Pauline Ventress, Jean Crane, Pat Andrews, Patrick Lyons, Caine Libin, Matthew Young, Arthur Noronha, Marjery Craig, Juliet Nakabugo, Marie David Ambrosine, Pauline Ryan, Mary De Wolf, Brian Collins, Louis de Marigny, Audrey Green, Augustine Barna, Mary Lyons and David Lewis

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Sr John Baptist, Judith Roser, Mary Cawthorn, David Tully, Joe Gunn, John Keily, Mary Jeffries, Germaine Reid, Patricia Gibson, Vince Dalton, Sean Tanzey, Christine Metcalfe, Ken Clark, Fr David Standley, Keith Taylor, Francoise Heaton, Sheila Elliott, Ron Cameron, Mary Wright (Woodman), Tita Riley, William Humphries, Sister Katherine Owens, Teresa McGaughey, Mary Edgington, Angela Mallion, Sharon Dobson, Jorge Manuel Gomes, Brigid Davis, Joan Sutton, Nicola Batchelor, Canon Michael Cooley, Maria Krynicki, Luisa Ward, Canon Jeremiah Cronin, Jose Rogers, Josephine Tillcock, Fr Jake Dicto, Chris Walters, Pietro Rencricca, and Robert Willis (former Dean of Canterbury Cathedral)

Please pray for those whose 1st anniversaries are in November 2024:

Lewis Rising and Janet Rogers

ST THOMAS' SECOND AND OTHER COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: **26/27 Oct: SVP**

Next weekend: **02/03 Nov.: CAFOD Middle East Humanitarian Appeal** The conflict in the Middle East is getting worse and the families affected need our help. Please donate today to the CAFOD-DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal and support our local Caritas partners in Gaza and Lebanon as they continue to provide essential food, water and shelter: cafod.org.uk/give.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER 2024

For anyone who has lost a child

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.



St Thomas' Baptism Preparation: To all parents wishing to have their children Baptised; our next preparation meeting will be on **Saturday, 2 November 2024** at 9.00 am in the Presbytery. Places are limited so call or email the office to book. Please fill in a Registration Form in advance (from office, online or in the Narthex)

From Fr Anthony...

Halloween is this coming Thursday. The word comes from All Hallow Eve, the eve of All Saints' Day, the 1st of November. Halloween has become commercially increasingly very popular. In my last parish, I visited a family that seemed to have as many Halloween decorations around the house as that you might have at Christmas. I see Halloween as poking fun at our fear of death and what may be coming after. We create all these strange, wonderful and horrible creatures that come to wreak havoc and scare us. Even my dentist had bats, pumpkins, black cats and ghouls strung up as bunting in the reception. But this Eve prepares us to celebrate life after death. We give thanks for those who are now experiencing the beatific vision, the fullness of life. These will includes family and friends as well as people whom the church officially recognises as saints.

The Church encourages us to see November as a month when we remember those who have died, because we believe in the resurrection from the dead. Death is the end of our earthly life but not the end of our existence since the soul is immortal. I often find myself repeating the sentence from the Preface for the dead; "Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended and when this earthly dwelling turned to death, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven."

November is a good time for remembering and praying for our loved ones who have died and whose loss we feel. It is a time when we are particularly conscious of those in our parishes who are grieving and all those families who have lost loved ones in the past year. Here at St Thomas' we mark this time of year with the blessing of the graves. This year this will be on Sunday 3rd November, meeting at 3pm at the chapel of Canterbury Cemetery. Every day during the month of November, at the offertory procession at Mass, we bring up our November lists containing the names those we love and remember and place them before the altar.

A Prayer of Remembrance

God, thank you for the special people in our lives whom we are remembering in a special way during the month of November. We thank you for being a compassionate God who walks with us in the our dark moments of grief and loneliness. We are thankful for all who continue to love and support us through our grief. Lord, continue to be a light for us, giving us hope, direction and courage. May we now live our lives treasuring the memories of those special people we have known and loved and help us to bring light and hope to others. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

ST THOMAS' PARISH MATTERS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION and FIRST RECONCILIATION: Registration forms for 2025 programme now available in the Narthex or from the Parish Office. Children should be baptised and in Year 3 or above. First Holy Communion day is Sunday 18th May 2025 at the 9.30 and 11.00 Masses. Closing date for applications is Sunday 24th November 2024. The introductory meeting for parents and children is on Saturday 7th December at 9am - books may be bought at this meeting.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2025: The programme starts on Sunday 12th January 2025 in the Church Hall from 4pm - 5.30pm. There will be a parents' online meeting on Tuesday, 7 January 2025 at 7.30pm - access details will be sent to parent emails. Application Forms are available in the church, on the website or from the office and must be submitted on or before 24 November 2024.

Feast of Christ the King Monastic Experience -with the Benedictine Nuns of Minster Abbey. Single Catholic women aged 18 - 40 yrs are invited to experience Monastic life. Friday, 22 to Sunday, 24 November at Minster Abbey. Information from: minstervocations@gmail.com or www.minsterabbeynuns.org

Promise Auction held on Sat 19 October, Thank you to all those who donated experiences and all who came and bid on the night. We raised £673 for our parish. Any queries in collecting you promises please email socialstthomasrc@gmail.com

Harvest Festival thank you for all your food donations to Catching Lives we raised £92.88 with our cake sale.

QUIZ NIGHT 9th November. A fun family friendly evening. Bring a friend or join a table. Tickets available from the Presbytery or email socialstthomasrc@gmail.com. All funds raised going to our parish. Booking in advance is advised. See posters for more details.

100 CLUB: The St Thomas' 100 Club is an easy way to support our parish in our efforts to raise funds. Forms available in the Narthex, on our website and from the Office. Please speak to Linda in the office for more info.

Please remember: *The Feast of All Saints* on Friday, 1st November is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses at St Thomas's are at 9.30am, 12 noon and 8.00pm. Mass at St Dunstan's is 31st October at 4.00pm

Sunday 3 November at 3.00pm Fathers Anthony and Giovanni will be at Canterbury Cemetery to bless the graves. Please meet at the Cemetery Chapel

November Prayer Lists for Holy Souls: These are available in the Narthex. Please complete your list and drop it in the marked box in the Nathe. These lists will be taken to the Altar with the offertory at Masses during November.

INTRODUCING THE NEW LECTIONARY As you read in last week's newsletter, we are saying goodbye to Jerusalem translation of Scripture and from the First Sunday of Advent we will be using the English Standard Version of Scripture. The new books have just arrived this week and they look very beautiful! The Lectionary consists of four volumes, each costing £148; cost of the Book of the Gospels is £335.75. You may want to contribute to the cost of the books and have your name inscribed on a dedication plate inside. If so, please let us know.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TRANSLATION

led by Bishop Paul Hendricks at St Thomas of Canterbury Church Hall on Sat 2nd November 2024 from 2pm to 4pm. Tea and coffee will be available. The hall opens from 1.00pm, for anyone to come early and bring a packed lunch.

SHOP NEWS Christmas cards and Advent Calendars now available. Sunday Missals in the new format are now available.



2024 Building A Better Marriage days will be held in

Woolwich St Peter the Apostle parish Sat Nov 2 woolwich@rcaos.org.uk

AN EVENING WITH BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI

Archbishop John invites young adults (18-40) to join him for "An Evening with Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati" **Thurs 31st Oct: 6:30 pm;** St George's Cathedral. No tickets necessary, More details, visit www.tinyurl.com/frassatieve or scan the QR code.



Parish Pastoral Council

A shortened version of the minutes of the 14th October meeting are on the board in the Narthex. Our next meeting is on Monday 20th January 2025. John Renn (chair) on behalf of the PPC. Email: jrennstthomas@gmail.com

ST DUNSTAN'S PARISH MATTERS

Our community will have a time of reflection with Fr. Anthony and John Renn on the future of our parish. **Date & time:** after the 10.00am Mass today, 27th October. **Feast of All Saints:** Vigil Mass on 31st October 2024 at 4.00pm